

Washington, D.C. 20505

9 January 1979

The Honorable Peter B. Bensinger  
Administrator  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20537

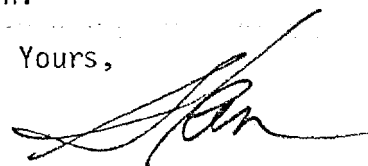
Dear Peter,

Thanks for your letter of 19 December suggesting that DEA be represented on the Intelligence Community Security Committee. I am certainly grateful for your interest in helping us strengthen our security.

As presently structured, the Security Committee is composed of members of the National Foreign Intelligence Board. Executive Order 12036 makes DEA a member of the Intelligence Community but not of the NFIB. Nonetheless, I am most anxious to accept your offer of participation in security matters. There are several other precedents for non-NFIB organizations to be represented on the Security Committee through observer status. This includes receipt of agendas and minutes of meetings and representation at any Committee meeting of interest. I believe it is everything but voting rights. I hope that you will join the Security Committee in observer status and the Chairman, Mr. Bob Gambino (telephone ), STAT will be happy to make all of the arrangements.

Again, thanks and hope to see you soon.

Yours,



STANSFIELD TURNER